

STATE SENATOR • DEBORAH CHERRY • 26TH DISTRICT

Cherry Press Release

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SEN. CHERRY'S LEGISLATION PUSHES FOR CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

LANSING – State Senator Deb Cherry (D-Burton) introduced legislation today that would amend the Michigan campaign finance act to require public funding for Supreme Court candidates. Essentially, Michigan Supreme Court justices would no longer be put in the questionable position of trying the cases of people who contribute to their campaigns.

“This legislation would benefit both judges and litigants by eliminating the appearance of impropriety in the legal process,” said Sen. Cherry. “It would protect judges from being accused of arbitrarily ruling in favor of contributors and litigants from feeling that an opponent has an unfair advantage.”

The legislation would establish a voluntary system of public funding, paid for by those making a designation on their state income tax returns. Participating candidates would be certified after meeting certain criteria, which includes spending limits and limits on donations.

“We want all Michigan citizens to feel confident they will receive justice when they stand before the highest court in the state and this legislation will help achieve that goal,” Sen. Cherry said.

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Sen. Deborah Cherry is a first-term Democrat from Burton, Michigan. She serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee, where she sits on the Higher Education, Department of Community Health, Department of Natural Resources and Capital Outlay subcommittees.